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The Harding Family

{1929 EDITION}



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by
Forrest C. Harding
Corunna, Indiana

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The Harding Family

1929 Edition

By Forrest G. Harding



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Foreword

The writer has endeavored in this little volume, to outline for its readers, a detailed story of the Harding ancestry, from the time "Harding" became an established name.

The "Harding Family," like all other families, have their joys and their sorrows, their successes and their failures, their prosperity and their misfortunes, their honors and their disgraces, the things they like to remember and the things they want to forget, so the writer has used the utmost care in preparing this History, to preserve the cherished memories and omit the things that would offend the most sensitive mind, and we trust, that you will accept this Volume in the same spirit in which it has been written.

There are many branches of the "Harding Family", so we have not tried to follow all of them, but have only taken up the lines to which we are closely connected, Viz: the "Dimmick Harding" and the "Micajah Harding, Sr." line. We have also shown our family connection to that of the late President of the United States, Warren G. Harding.

We are deeply indebted to Miss Amy Dragoo of LaGrange, Indiana and Mr. Bartlet A. Harding of Shelbyville, Indiana, for their splendid co-operation in helping to obtain some of the information herein contained. It has been with their efforts, that we have been able to make this story complete.

This little Volume, the 1929 Edition of the History of "THE HARDING FAMILY" is dedicated to the descendants of the Dimmick Harding and Micajah Harding, Sr., families.

KEY TO NUMBERING AND LETTERING OF CHAR-
ACTERS IN THIS BOOK

Each person, when their name appears for the first time in this History, is given a number preceding his or her name. Each time this person's name is used, it will always be preceded by the same number, as: (19 Micajah Harding or—24 Dimmick Harding).

As we go farther on in the History, we find a letter also preceding the number, as (A31 Levi Harding—or—D31 Solomon Harding). Thus the number always identifies the character and the letter identifies the family as follows:

All persons whose number is preceded by "A" are descendants of A31 Levi Harding.

All persons who's number is preceded by "B" are descendants of B32 Sabra Harding.

All persons who's number is preceded by "D" are descendants of D31 Solomon Harding.

All persons who's number is preceded by "G" are descendants of G37 Albert Harding.

All persons who's number is preceded by "E" are descendants of E38 Elmira Harding.

The Harding Line

"HARDIN" is doubtless a Gothic word, being retained with only circumstantial differences in all the Gothic dialects. It was extremely early in Europe.

"HARDIN" was a common name in England 1086 A. D., for at that time Doomsbook, in vulgar Latin, reports Hardinus, Hardine, Hardineus filius Elnodi, Hardingus and Hardingus filius Ainodie as proprietors or assignees of lands.

The orthography of Harding was adopted in about 1600. The study of the name Harding is interesting and it is typical of the men and women who bear it. Harding means "bold, courageous, daring and stout-hearted." The history of the Hardings (who came to America in 1623) is one of daring and courage. It is the story of the pioneers who traveled in small bands, rifle and axe in hand, their slender outfits on pack horses, penetrating the trackless wilderness to win homes for themselves and their progeny. They came by the indomitable spirits rightly, for their ancestors were pioneers in other lands. In England, back in the misty days between the advent of Hengist and Horsa and the Norman Conquest the Hardins (that is the original Anglo-Saxon form) had settled in eight or nine localities, giving their name to the villages they founded. England is not alone the country on which they left their mark. In France there is the town of Hardingen, the Danes have a Harburg, the Germans Harburg and the Dutch Hardenburg. Scores of illustrious men across the ocean have borne the name, Lord Harding, a past Viceroy of India, and Richard Harding Davis, the novelist and noted news-

paper correspondent were undoubtedly members of the Harding family who's name we bear.

We find the most probable source of the present family is from the Hardings reported by Burke in his "Landed Gentry" as having their seat at Upcott, near Barnstable, deriving their descent from Fritz Harding. Of this family was the learned Theo. Harding, D.D. and all circumstances tend to show that from this family came also William Harding, father of Mary Harding, who as Lady Gorges is the first of the name to be found in the annals of early colonial history, consequently believed to have been the first Harding on American soil. She with her husband, Capt. (Sir) Robert Gorges, Governor General of the whole country with the grant of a tract of land four miles wide on Massachusetts Bay and extending thirty miles back into the interior, arrived in August of 1623.

The following are supposed to be brothers of Lady Gorges:

- 1 Richard
- Joseph
- John

The above 1 Richard had a son Stephen Harding who was born in Braintree England in 1624. At the age of 23, or in 1647, he left his home in Weymouth, England and joined a colony who were migrating to America to the settlements established by Roger Williams a few years previous. Stephen Harding was a blacksmith by trade. He died February 20, 1698. His children as far as can be learned from the public records, were:

- 2 John
- 3 Stephen
- 4 Abraham and several daughters.
- 4 Abraham married Deborah , died

in Providence, Rhode Island, November 23, 1694. He was the father of seven children.

- 5 Israel
 - 6 Stephen
 - 7 John
 - 8 Thomas
- and three daughters.

6 Stephen, (Capt.) son of 4 Abraham Harding was born in Providence, Rhode Island in 1681. We do not have any record of who he married, or the date of his death. He was the father of six children, five of whom were sons. Two of these settled in the Wyoming Valley, Abraham and Stephen. The five sons were:

- 9 John, who removed to Redstone, Pa., and later to Kentucky.
- 10 Abraham, who is an ancestor of the late President Harding.
- 11 Stephen, ancestor of Dimmick and Micajah Harding.
- 12 Thomas.
- 13 Israel.

10 Abraham Harding, son of 6 Captain Stephen Harding was born in Warwick, R. I., June 11, 1720. He settled in the Wyoming Valley, Pa. He had a son, Abraham, Jr., born in Waterford, Conn. In 1740, Abraham married Huldah Tyron. They had a son, Amos, born in New York in 1764. He married Phoebe Tripp. They had three sons, one of which was George Tyron Harding, born in 1790. He married Elizabeth Madison in 1816. A son, Charles Alexander, was born to them in 1820. He married Mary Ann Crawford. They had a son, George Tyron Harding, who was born in 1844. He married Phoebe Elizabeth Dickerson Van Kirk. They had a son, Warren Gamaliel Harding, born November 2, 1865, who, in 1920, was elected President of the United States.

THE WYOMING MASSACRE

11 Stephen Harding, son of 6 Captain Stephen Harding was born in Warwick, R. I., in 1723. He married Amy Gardner in 1748 and in the following year they settled at Clochester, Conn., where his children were born in 1774, and just prior to the Revolution, he, with several other Harding families pushed westward and settled in the Wyoming Valley of Pennsylvania, on the west bank of the Susquehannah River, in what is now Exter, Luzerne County. At the time of the Wyoming Massacre on July 3, 1778, Captain Stephen Harding was in command of Fort Jenkins which suffered the first attack. It was near here that a group of Hardings met unflinchingly the supreme test. Following is the story of the horrible event:

"Three days before the Massacre, a small party of settlers of men and boys left Fort Jenkins, which stood a few miles up the Susquehannah river, and had gone to the corn field of Stephen Harding, Jr., to hoe his corn. The party was composed of Benjamin Harding, Stukely Harding and Stephen Jr., whose father, Captain Stephen Harding, was in command of Fort Jenkins. Two Tory scouts saw the party at work and carried on the news to an advanced guard of Col. John Butler's band of Rangers, Tories and Indians which were terrorizing the surrounding country. On the way back to the Fort the party was ambushed and overwhelmed by the Indians. John Gardner, a cousin of the Hardings, was carried off and died in captivity. The others were all killed, with the exception of young Stephen Harding, who escaped into the deep woods and made his way back to the Fort with the terrible tidings.

"Remember the fate of the Hardings", was the cry which rang through the valley as 300 settlers sallied forth from Forty Fort three days later to avenge the death of their comrades. That same day they met the British and Senecas, a force nearly three

times their number. A fearful struggle took place. The handful of pioneers fought bravely, but the odds were too great. One by one they fell. The bodies of these gallant men were taken to a burying ground near Jenkins' Ferry and interred. Over their graves to this day, a slab bears this phrase:

SWEET BE THE SLEEP OF THOSE
WHO PREFER DEATH TO SLAVERY

Captain Stephen Harding died October 11, 1789, aged 66 years. His children were:

- 14 Stephen
- 15 Thomas
- 16 Benjamin
- 17 Stukely
- 18 Israel
- 19 Micajah, ancestor of Edward and Clyde Harding of Howe, Indiana.
- 20 Elisha
- 21 John
- 22 William, father of Dimmick Harding. Born 1767 at Colchester.

22 William Harding, son of 11 Captain Stephen Harding was born in Colchester, Conn., in 1767. Married Polly . Past records show that they lived in Pennsylvania in September, 1798. He died in 1825. They were the parents of the following children:

- 23 Abel. Was married. Died at Adrain, Mich. Left no descendants.
- 24 Dimmick
- 25 Curtis
- 26 Solomon
- 27 Oliver
- 28 William (no record)
- 29 Samantha (no record)
- 30 Sarah (no record)

24 Dimmick Harding, son of 22 William and Polly Harding, was born in Pennsylvania, September 12, 1803. Later with his parents, brothers and sisters moved to

Wayne County, New York, where he married Sarah Pike. Nothing is known about the parents of Sarah Pike, but she was born June 8, 1805. It was here that part of their family of eight children were born. In 1832, Dimmick Harding with his family moved from New York state to LaGrange County, Indiana and settled on a farm near Lima, or what is known now as Howe, Indiana. The other brothers of Dimmick Harding who had come to Indiana previously, had settled in the vicinity of LaGrange, LaGrange county, but Dimmick preferred to stay in the vicinity of Lima, for LaGrange was then a dense wilderness and would take considerable time and work to clear and get ready for the plow, while at Lima no clearing was necessary, for it was beautiful prairie land. After years of toil and hardship in LaGrange County, Dimmick decided to move. With his family he came southeastward, and on September 1, 1841, he settled in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana on the farm now (1929) owned by Vern E. Harding and operated by Forrest C. Harding. Little did he realize, that, ere ninety years should pass into eternity, the automobile would be speeding by the old homestead at sixty miles an hour, and airplanes would be drifting through the atmosphere above like summer butterflies. Little did he suspicion, as he drove that old ox-team in and out amongst the stumps and underbrush, that, ere four-score years should pass, that very turf which he was turning would be turned again by modern tractor, and that those very hills which he had purchased from the government for \$1.50 per acre and which he trod day after day would resound with the exhaust of modern inventions. But that very thing has come to pass within the period of four-score years and ten.

Dimmick Harding was preceded in death by two sons and his wife. His wife, Sarah (Pike) Harding passed away on September 13, 1866, aged 60 years, 3 months and 5 days. The remainder of his life was spent residing with his children, and on April 23, 1882 he passed into eternity, aged 78 years, 7 months and 11 days. He had lived his day. He had fought a good fight, and through his sacrifices, his labor and persist-

ent efforts, he has helped to make possible the things of today. He was the father of eight children. They were:

- A31 Levi
- B32 Sabra
- C33 Samantha
- D34 Solomon
- E35 William, died June 16, 1845, aged 6 yrs,
10 months and 28 days.
- F36 Wily, died October 1, 1811, aged 1 year,
7 months and 11 days.
- G37 Albert
- H38 Elmira

A31 Levi Harding, son of 21 Dimmick Harding, was born in New York State, August 7, 1827. At the age of five years he came with his parents to LaGrange County, Indiana. At the age of 14 years he removed with his parents to Richland Township, DeKalb, County, Indiana, where he resided the remainder of his life. He was united in marriage to Sarah Kline and to this union was born eight children. Levi Harding was a minister of the Gospel of the Baptist faith. He was also a farmer and owned a tract of land directly across the road from that of his father's. On April 16, 1904 he passed away, leaving his entire family to mourn their loss with the exception of one son, Archie, who died in infancy. His wife was born December 4, 1837 and died November 22, 1924. Their children were:

- A39 William
- A40 Dimmick Judson
- A41 Augustus
- A42 Annette
- A43 John Leland
- A44 Archie, born October 2, 1873, died January 29, 1876.
- A45 Richard Harrison

B32 Sabra Harding, daughter of 21 Dimmick Harding and Sarah (Pike) Harding was born in New York State on Jan. 3, 1829. At the age of three years she came with her parents to LaGrange County, Indiana. At the age of 12 years she removed with her parents to

Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, where she resided until death. She was united in marriage to Alvin Tompkins. One child was born to this union which died in infancy, but they took into their home two boys whom they adopted and reared as their own. Sabra, after the death of her father, together with her husband, occupied the farm owned by her father until death removed her on August 27, 1884. Mr. Tompkins died . Their adopted sons were:

B46 Charles

B47 John

C32 Samantha Harding, daughter of 21 Dimmick and Sarah Harding was born in Ohio, June 11, 1831. At the age of one year she came with her parents to LaGrange County, Indiana. At the age of 10 years, she removed with her parents to Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana where she remained the balance of her life. She was united in marriage to Richard Dearborn. There were no children born to this union. Mr. Dearborn died and Samantha remarried to George Shaffer. No children were born to this union. On September 13, 1905, Mrs. Shaffer died. Mr. Shaffer is still living. (1929.)

D34 Solomon Harding, son of 21 Dimmick and Sarah Harding was born in LaGrange County, Indiana, November 10, 1831. At the age of eight years he moved with his parents to Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana. He was united in marriage to Sarah M. Smith. Mr. Harding was a farmer by occupation and owned a sixty acre tract adjoining the old homestead on the east. He was also a veterinary surgeon and enjoyed a large practice in the community where he lived. On January 30, 1898, Mrs. Harding died at the age of 63 years, 3 months. She was born October 31, 1834, and was just ten days older than her husband. After the death of his wife, Mr. Harding moved to Cermna, Indiana where he continued his veterinary practice until he was stricken with paralysis. For five weeks he laid in a helpless semi-conscious condition, and on April 2, 1909 he passed away, aged 71 years, 4 months and 23 days. He was the father of the following eight children:

- D48 Mary
- D49 Martha
- D50 Frankie (died in infancy).
- D51 Adelbert
- D52 Vern E.
- D53 Eveline, born July 19, 1867; died July 10, 1877.
- D54 Dennis
- D55 Pearl

G37 Albert Harding, son of 21 Dimmick and Sarah Harding, was born in Richland township, DeKalb county, Indiana, on February 19, 1842. He was united in marriage to Arminda Smith. Arminda Smith was a sister to Sarah M. Smith, wife of Solomon Harding, the two brothers having married sisters. Albert was always fond of hunting, fishing and trapping, often going on short expeditions of fishing to the lakes of Steuben county. He was also a craftsman, being handy at making boats and canoes. At one time he operated a hardware store at Cornuma, Indiana. On September 15, 1911, he died, his wife surviving him. She remained at her home in Cornuma until death removed her on February 27, 1916. They had seven children, as follows:

- G56 Lucius
- G57 Emma
- G58 Mildred
- G59 George
- G60 Curtis
- G61 Daisy
- G62 Herbert, born May 16, 1883; died September 13, 1907.

H38 Elmira Harding, daughter of 21 Dimmick and Sarah Harding, was born in Richland township, DeKalb county, Indiana, on August 18, 1845. She was united in marriage to Henry Kline. Mrs. Kline and her husband resided on a farm near Cornuma, Indiana until death removed her April 6, 1873, aged 27 years, 8 months and 12 days. She was the mother of two children as follows:

- H63 Vesta
- H64 Archie, who died at the age of 18 months.

We Will Now Take Up the Family History of the
Grandchildren of 24 Dimmick Harding,

A39 William Harding, son of A31 Levi Harding and Sarah (Kline) Harding, was born in Richland township, DeKalb county, Indiana, December 13, 1857. Married Katherine Luttmann. Mr. Harding was a farmer by occupation, and in later years moved to Kendallville, Indiana, where he died July 3, 1918, leaving no descendants.

A40 Dimmick Judson Harding, son of A31 Levi Harding and Sarah (Kline) Harding, was born in Richland township, DeKalb county, Indiana. Married Maggie Topping. Mr. Harding is a tinner by trade and has spent most of his life in Garrett and Angola, Indiana. They are the parents of the following two children:

A65 Bessie

A66 Florence, born October 22, 1896; died May 6, 1919.

A41 Augustus Harding, son of A31 Levi and Sarah (Kline) Harding, was born in Richland township, DeKalb County, Indiana, Dec. 14, 1865. Married Mattie McClellan. Is a farmer by occupation. Mrs. Harding died several years ago, leaving her husband and the following children:

A67 Minnie

A68 Viola

A69 Berniece

A70 Alta, born March 9, 1902. Died January 3, 1911.

A71 Marguerite

A72 Blanche

A73 William Harvey

A42 Annette Harding, daughter of A31 Levi and Sarah (Kline) Harding was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, April 19, 1868. Married Robert M. Reed. They were the parents of the following children:

A74 Lena

A75 Earl

A76 John Arthur

A43 John Leland Harding, son of A31 Levi and Sarah (Kline) Harding was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, November 25, 1870. Married Edna Graham. Is a farmer by occupation and has spent most of his life in his home township. They are the parents of the following children:

- A77 Ralph
- A78 Roy
- A79 Mark
- A80 William Philip

A45 Richard Harrison Harding, son of A31 Levi and Sarah (Kline) Harding was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, Sept. 25, 1877. Teamster, Drayman and Truck Driver by occupation. Married Alice Treesh and are parents of two children as follows:

- A81 Walter
- A82 Zelma

B46 Charles Tompkins, adopted son of B32 Sabra (Harding) Tompkins and Alva Tompkins was born at Grass Lake, Jackson County, Mich. October, 12, 1870. Married Lottie Zwilling. No children were born to this union. Mrs. Tompkins died and Mr. Tompkins again married Mattie Zellar. No children were born to this union. Mr. Tompkins is a jeweler by trade.

B47 John Tompkins, adopted son of B32 Sabra (Harding) Tompkins and Alvin Tompkins was born in Michigan, November 27, 1873. Married Nora Lautzenhiser. Mr. Tompkins is a farmer by occupation. They are the parents of one child:

- B83 Shirley

D48 Mary Harding, daughter of D31 Solomon and Sarah (Smith) Harding, was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, February 2, 1856. Married Wellington Farrington. No children were born to this union. She died in 1904.

D49 Martha Harding, daughter of D31 Solomon and Sarah (Smith) Harding was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, October 17, 1857. Married Simpson Farrington. Died December 7, 1907. Their children were:

THE HARDING FAMILY

D84 Howard

D85 Hollis

D86 Hattie

D51 Adelbert Harding, son of D34 Solomon and Sarah (Smith) Harding, was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, October 25, 1862. He never married. He was always a great admirer of horses. He lived alone the greater part of his life with the exception of the last few years, when he made his home with his sister, Mrs. Pearl Wiltrout. He died January 14, 1910. Death was due to cancer of the face.

D52 Verne Ellsworth Harding, son of D34 Solomon and Sarah (Smith) Harding was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, July 24, 1865. Married Belle Cox. Mr. Harding is a farmer by occupation and owns the tract of land taken up by his grandfather, Dimmick Harding. They are the parents of three children as follows:

D87 Forrest C.

D88 Mary Myrth, born September 24, 1895.
Died September 27, 1901.

D89 Annise Luella

D54 Dennis Harding, son of D34 Solomon and Sarah (Smith) Harding, was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, August 17, 1870. Married May Brand. Their children are as follows:

D90 Fern Ferman

D91 Rosa

D92 Belle

D93 Vincent

D55 Pearl Harding, daughter of D34 Solomon and Sarah (Smith) Harding, was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, January 10, 1875. Married Jacob Wiltrout. She died June 28, 1912. Their children are:

D94 Elmer

D95 Estell

D96 Wilma

G56 Lucious Harding, son of G37 Albert and Arminda (Smith) Harding, was born in Richland Town-

ship, DeKalb County, Indiana, June 26, 1866. Married Alice King. Is a painter and decorator by trade. To this union was born one child, as follows:

G97 Zeona, born November 2, 1902. Died June 17, 1919.

G57 Emma Harding, daughter of G37 Albert and Arminda (Smith) Harding was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, June 26, 1866. She was a twin sister to the above G56 Lucious Harding. She married Fred Witt. Mrs. Witt died March 12, 1915. They were the parents of the following children:

G98 Lillie
G99 Nellie
G100 Clifton
G101 Vesta
G102 Ethel
G103 Russel
G104 Pauline

G58 Mildred Harding, daughter of G37 Albert and Arminda (Smith) Harding, was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, March 2, 1870. Married William Zouker. They have the following children:

G105 Jay
G106 Clarence
G107 Jessie, born December 14, 1893. Died July 6, 1914.
G108 Walter
G109 Maude
G110 Ioa
G111 Livonia
G112 Thelma
G113 Ronald

G59 George Harding, son of G37 Albert and Arminda (Smith) Harding, was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, July 4, 1872. Married Carrie Belle Butler. Mr. Harding is a farmer by occupation. Lives at present at Yates Center, Kansas. He served two years as a member of the Legislature in the state of Kansas. They have the following children:

- G114 Arthur William
- G115 Percy Robert
- G116 Ethel Mae
- G117 Lester Albert

G60 Curtis Harding, son of G37 Albert and Arminda (Smith) Harding, was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, April 16, 1871. Mr. Harding was a carrier for the Kansas City Star and Times for 13 years. Is at present on a farm near Vernon, Kansas. He married Mary Lettie Lovell. They are the parents of the following children:

- G118 Glen Carl
- G119 Cleo Frank

G61 Daisy Harding, daughter of G37 Albert and Arminda (Smith) Harding, was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, June 21, 1879. Married Francis Wiltrout. She died October 15, 1915. They were the parents of the following children:

- G120 Myrtle
- G121 LeRoy

H63 Vesta Kline, daughter of H38 Elmira (Harding) Kline and Henry Kline, was born in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, June 26, 1868. Married Milo J. Thomas. Mr. Thomas died in 1927 and since his death Mrs. Thomas resides in Pico, California. They were the parents of the following children:

- H122 Harry Kiblinger
- H123 Bertha Mildred
- H124 Charles Augustus
- H125 Hugh Allen
- H126 Wilma Aileen

We Will Now Take up the Great Grandchildren of
24 Dimmick Harding

A65 Bessie Harding, daughter of A40 Dimmick Judson and Maggie (Topping) Harding, was born April 8, 1892. Married Elijah Dickinson. They have the following children:

A127 Nathaniel, born August 12, 1915.

A128 Florence, born July 22, 1921.

A67 Minnie Harding, daughter of A11 Augustus and Mattie (McClellan) Harding, was born May 22, 1896. Married Edward Carrol. They have the following children:

A129 Marcelles, born January 6, 1921.

A130 John Daniel, born April 2, 1925. Died October 3, 1927.

A68 Viola Harding, daughter of A11 Augustus and Mattie (McClellan) Harding was born April 6, 1898. Married Elmer Clepper. They have the following child:

A131 Gene, born September 3, 1921.

A69 Bernice Harding, daughter of A11 Augustus and Mattie (McClellan) Harding, was born March 27, 1900. Married Floyd Walker. They have the following children:

A132 Lawrence Franklin, born May 15, 1921.

A133 Robert Donald, born October 3, 1925.

A71 Marguerite Harding, daughter of A41 Augustus and Mattie (McClellan) Harding, was born September 12, 1901. Married Clifford Parrot. They have no children.

A72 Blanche Harding, daughter of A11 Augustus and Mattie (McClellan) Harding, was born June 12, 1906. Married John Sedie. They have no children.

A73 William Harvey Harding, son of A11 Augustus and Mattie (McClellan) Harding, was born July 23, 1910. He is still single (1929).

A74 Lena Reed, daughter of A42 Annette (Harding) Reed and Robert M. Reed was born July 6, 1901. Married Merle Armstrong. They have the following

children:

A134 Imogene Deloris, born January 6, 1921.

A135 Manford Eugene, born September 7, 1926.

A75 Earl Reed, son of A42, Annette (Harding) Reed and Robert M. Reed, was born November 11, 1904. Is unmarried. (1929)

A76 John Arthur Reed, son of A42 Annette (Harding) Reed and Robert M. Reed, was born November 25, 1907. Is unmarried. (1929).

A77 Ralph Harding, son of A13 John Leland and Edna (Graham) Harding, was born July 17, 1892. Married Pearl Rolland. They have the following children:

A136 Eunice, born January 9, 1913.

A137 Rolland, born September 20, 1914.

A138 Robert Leland, born May 21, 1926.

A78 Roy Harding, son of A13 John Leland and Edna (Graham) Harding was born September 10, 1894. Married Rachael Provines. They have no children.

A79 Mark Harding, son of A13 John Leland and Edna (Graham) Harding, was born March 28, 1898. Married Irene Parker. They have no children.

A80 William Philip Harding, son of A13 John Leland and Edna (Graham) Harding, was born January 6, 1905. Married Phoebe Kimmel. They have no children.

A81 Walter Harding, son of A45 Richard Harrison and Alice (Treesh) Harding, was born November 5, 1899. Married Marjorie Ingle. They have no children.

A82 Zelma Harding, daughter of A45 Richard Harrison and Alice (Treesh) Harding was born January, 10, 1902. Married Edward Kelley. They have one child as follows:

A139 Marylin June, born October 12, 1927.

B33 Shirley Tompkins, daughter of B47 John and Nora (Lantzenheiser) Tompkins was born May 15, 1915. She is unmarried. (1929).

D84 Howard Farrington, son of D19 Martha (Harding) Farrington and Simpson Farrington, was born May 28, 1885. Married Nina Pennels. She was

born at Hersey, Mich., April 15, 1889. They live at present at Belding, Michigan and have the following children:

- D110 Ruth Thelma, born March 11, 1916.
- D111 Vivian Maxine, born March 16, 1921.
- D112 Norma Lareen, born November 21, 1923.
- D113 Lena Catherine, born February 18, 1925.

D35 Hollis Farrington, son of D49 Martha (Harding) Farrington and Simpson Farrington, was born in Richland township, DeKalb county, Indiana, February 2, 1888. Married Laura Miser. They reside in Auburn, Indiana at present and are the parents of the following children:

- D114 LaVon Irene, born March 14, 1914.
- D115 Maxine, born January 13, 1918.

D26 Hattie May Farrington, daughter of D49 Martha (Harding) Farrington and Simpson Farrington, was born in Richland township, DeKalb county, Indiana, June 19, 1891. Married Robert Quick. They had one son:

- D116 Harrold J., born May 4, 1911.
Mrs. Quick then married Arthur W. Maloney. They live at Mano, Missouri and have the following children:
- D117 Ray Willis, born November 4, 1916.
- D118 Benlah May, born January 11, 1919.
- D119 Albert Howard, born June 28, 1921.
- D150 Troy Hollis, born March 9, 1923.
- D151 Estell Darrell, born March 13, 1925.
- D152 Helen LaVon, born May 7, 1927.

D27 Forrest C. Harding, son of D52 Verne Ellsworth Harding and Belle (Cox) Harding, was born in Richland township, DeKalb county, Indiana on the original Dimmick Harding homestead on November 13, 1890. Married Mary J. Boren. They have the following two children:

- D153 Dale Clifford, born March 22, 1913.
- D154 Joyce Lucille, born September 26, 1915.

D29 Annise Luella Harding, daughter of D52 Verne Ellsworth and Belle (Cox) Harding, was born in Richland township, DeKalb county, Indiana January 6, 1904.

THE HARDING FAMILY

Married Leo Burnor. They live at present at Port Huron, Michigan. They have one child, a son as follows:

D155 Duane Ray, born April 7, 1929.

D90 Fern Ferman Harding, son of D54 Dennis and May (Brand) Harding, was born June 6, 1899. Is unmarried and resides with his father at Kendallville, Indiana.

D91 Rosa E. Harding, daughter of D54 Dennis Harding and May (Brand) Harding, was born June 27, 1903. Married Earl B. Darland. They have no children.

D92 Belle H. Harding, daughter of D54 Dennis and May (Brand) Harding, was born March 1, 1907. Married Orville E. Harmon. They have no children.

D93 Vincent M. Harding, son of D54 Dennis Harding and May (Brand) Harding, was born October 17, 1913. Is unmarried and lives with his father at Kendallville, Indiana.

D94 Elmer J. Wiltrout, son of D55 Pearl (Harding) and Jacob Wiltrout, was born in Richland township, DeKalb county, Indiana, October 17, 1893. Married Mand Palmer. They live in Elkhart, Indiana. They have no children.

D95 Estell J. Wiltrout, son of D55 Pearl (Harding) and Jacob Wiltrout, was born in Richland township, DeKalb county, Indiana, March 20, 1896. Married Dorthea Armstrong. Mr. Wiltrout is an attorney in Gary, Indiana. They have no children.

D96 Wilma Wiltrout, daughter of D55 Pearl (Harding) and Jacob Wiltrout, was born in Richland township, DeKalb county, Indiana, May 13, 1905. Married Kenneth Fee. They reside on a farm near Waterloo, Indiana. They have one child as follows:

D156 Richard, born May 15, 1925.

G93 Lillie Witt, daughter of G57 Emma (Harding) and Fred Witt, was born July 1, 1887. Married Mr. Edward Brandbery. They were the parents of one daughter:

G157 Mildred

Mrs. Brandbery again married to Jack

Dunn. They have no children. Mr. Dunn died in March, 1929.

G99 Nellie Witt, daughter of G57 Emma (Harding) and Fred Witt, was born March 27, 1889. Married John Wright. They have one son as follows:

G158 Hubert, born January 14, 1916.

G100 Clifton Witt, son of G57 Emma (Harding) and Fred Witt, was born February 16, 1894. Married Blanche . They are the parents of one son as follows:

G159 Bobby Ray, born .

G101 Vesta Witt, daughter of G57 Emma (Harding) and Fred Witt, was born June 29, 1891. Married Charles Whitney. They have two children as follows:

G160 Leona, born March 26, 1911.

G161 Thelma, born January 15, 1915.

G102 Ethel Witt, daughter of G57 Emma (Harding) and Fred Witt was born March 11, 1892. Married Charles Court. They have the following four children:

G162 Iona May, born July 31, 1911.

G163 Robert Allen, born September 21, 1917.

G164 Warren George, born March 1, 1921.

G165 Norma Esther, born April 16, 1927.

G103 Russell Witt, son of G57 Emma (Harding) and Fred Witt, was born August 29, 1903. Is unmarried.

G104 Pauline LiVern Witt, daughter of G57 Emma (Harding) and Fred Witt was born April 28, 1909. Is unmarried.

G105 Jay Zonker, son of G58 Mildred (Harding) and William Zonker, was born June 26, 1888. Married O. Dessa Hathaway. Mr. Zonker is engaged in the grocery business in Corunna at the present time. They are the parents of the following children:

G166 LaVern, born September 17, 1909.

G167 Marvel, born January 30, 1911.

G168 Sylvester, born January 25, 1913.

G106 Clarence Zonker, son of G58 Mildred (Harding) and William Zonker, was born October 18, 1889. Married Berthan Emerick. They have one daughter as follows:

G169 Sandal, born January 9, 1924.

G107 Jessie Zonker, daughter of G58 Mildred (Harding) and William Zonker was born December 14, 1893. She never married and on July 6, 1914 she died, aged 21 years and 7 months.

G108 Walter Zonker, son of G58 Mildred (Harding) and William Zonker, was born September 9, 1895. Married Princess Krabill. They have four children as follows:

G170 Junior, born November 10, 1919.

G171 Christiana, born December 2, 1922.

G172 Marylin, born August 24, 1925.

G173 Gloria Jane, born November 5, 1927.

G109 Mand Zonker, daughter of Mildred (Harding) and William Zonker was born July 28, 1897. Married Bert McQuillin. They have two children as follows:

G174 Mildred, born May 10, 1924.

G175 Robert, born September 4, 1925.

G110 Iona Zonker, daughter of G58 Mildred (Harding) and William Zonker, was born July 19, 1899. Married Lynn Reed. They were the parents of two children as follows:

G176 Robert, born March 28, 1918.

G177 Marjadene, born October 14, 1920.

Mrs. Reed again married Forrest Lang. They have no children.

G111 Livonia Zonker, daughter of G58 Mildred (Harding) and William Zonker was born June 4, 1905. Married William Lyndworth. They have one daughter:

G178 Alice Lon, born May 22, 1927.

G112 Thelma Zonker, daughter of G58 Mildred (Harding) and William Zonker, was born October 15, 1907. She is still single. (1929).

G113 Ronald Zonker, son of G58 Mildred (Harding) and William Zonker, was born December 26, 1909. He is unmarried.

G114 Arthur William Harding, son of G59 George and Carrie Belle (Butler) Harding, was born October 31, 1894. Married Melvina Wood. They have four

children as follows:

G179 Melvin Arthur, born July 2, 1917. Died March 4, 1923.

G180 Katherine Estelle, born November 5, 1918. Died Jan. 17, 1919.

G181 George Allen, born May 4, 1920.

G182 Evelyn Ruth, born July 15, 1925.

G115 Percy Robert Harding, son of G59 George and Carrie Belle (Butler) Harding, was born June 2, 1896. Married Harriet Elizabeth Fitch. They are the parents of six children as follows:

G183 Florence Mae, born November 18, 1917.

G184 Herbert Eugene, born February 12, 1919.

G185 Jennabelle Ruth, born July 27, 1922.

G186 Pauline Elizabeth, born November 7, 1924.

G187 Robert Dale, born March 12, 1926.

G188 Alice Ethelyn, born March 13, 1929.

G116 Ethel Mae Harding, daughter of G59 George and Carrie Belle (Butler) Harding, was born December 31, 1898. Married Walter Weide. They have four children as follows:

G189 Marjorie Belle, born June 15, 1919.

G190 Elvin George, born March 4, 1923.

G191 Frances Elaine, born February 22, 1925.

G192 Mayona Marie, born August 15, 1926.

G117 Lester Albert Harding, son of G59 George and Carrie Belle (Butler) Harding, was born November 21, 1901. Married Edith Williams. They have one daughter as follows:

G193 Dorothy Faye, born November 12, 1928.

G118 Glen Carl Harding, son of G60 Curtis and Mary (Lovell) Harding, was born November 11, 1897. Worked with his father for the Kansas City "Star and Times" for 13 years. Married Clara Belle McDaniel who was one of the leading instructors of education in Woodson County, Kansas. In 1928 they settled on a farm in Woodson County, Kansas. They have three children as follows:

G194 Franklin Birdell, born September 20, 1922.

G195 Lois Maxine, born April 5, 1924.

G196 Donna Maria, born January 20, 1927.

G119 Cleo Frank Harding, son of G60 Curtis and Mary (Lovell) Harding was born October 10, 1902. He is unmarried and lives with his father on a farm in Woodson County, Kansas. Was associated with his father as a carrier for the Kansas City Star and Times for 13 years.

G120 Myrtle Wilttrout, daughter of G61 Daisy (Harding) and Francis Wilttrout, was born April 17, 1899. Married Quay Kurtz. They reside in Kendallville, Indiana. They have one child as follows:

G197 Leauore Marylin, born April 17, 1921.

G121 LeRoy Wilttrout, son of G61 Daisy (Harding) and Francis Wilttrout, was born May 8, 1907. He is still single and attending school at Indiana State University at Bloomington, Indiana.

H122 Harry Kiblinger Thomas, son of H63 Vesta (Kline) and Milo J. Thomas, was born in Cornum, Indiana, March 21, 1887. Married Adda Westerfield. They have two children as follows:

H198 Ruth Aileen, born September 7, 1912.

H199 Marie Heen, born January 1, 1911.

H123 Bertha Mildred Thomas, daughter of Vesta (Kline) and Milo J. Thomas, was born in Cornum, Indiana, March 5, 1889. Married Lawrence Zonker. They reside in California. They have three children as follows:

H200 Lawrence Charles, born June 26, 1919.

H201 Thomas Edward, born July 14, 1921.

H202 Theodore Wayne, born February 27, 1929.

H124 Charles Augustus Thomas, son of H63 Vesta (Kline) and Milo J. Thomas, was born in Cornum, Indiana July 16, 1891. Married Loretta Holsinger. They reside at Pico, California. They have no children.

H125 Hugh Allen Thomas, son of H63 Vesta (Kline) and Milo J. Thomas, was born July 27, 1896. Hugh was accidentally shot by a playmate while playing "wild west" in his father's hardware store on an

early Sunday morning. He with the other boy had attended the telephone switchboard during the night. He died a few minutes after the accident from the effects of the wound. His death occurred on February 26, 1911.

H126 Wilma Aileen Thomas, daughter of G63 Vesta (Kline) and Milo J. Thomas, was born in Cornuda, Indiana, October 26, 1900. Married Victor Deihl. They reside in California. They have two boys as follows:

H203 Thomas Victor, born December 11, 1924.

H204 Richard Harry, born September 9, 1928.

Following are the Great-Great Grandchildren of

24 Dimmick Harding

G157 Mildred Brandberry, daughter of G98 Lillie (Witt) and Edward Brandberry, was born June 8, 1906. Married Thomas Flinn. They have one child as follows:

G205 Thomas Robert, born January 7, 1928.

G167 Marvel Zonker, daughter of G105 Jay and O Dessa (Hathaway) Zonker was born January 30 1911. Married Lawrence Shultz. They have one child as follows:

G206 Delores, born April 5, 1927.

THE MICAJAH HARDING SR. LINE

19 Micajah Harding Sr., son of Captain Stephen and Amy (Gardner) Harding, was born in Colchester, Conn., in 1761. His father had charge of Fort Jenkins at the time of the Wyoming Massacre, and he was also a younger brother of Benjamin and Stukely Harding who were killed by the Indians at the time. He grew to manhood and married Betsey (last name unknown). He was a commissioned Captain under Washington for a term of seven years. Following is a copy of an old record of his commission and reads as follows:

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
THOMAS MUFFIN
GOVERNOR OF SAID COMMONWEALTH

To Micajah Harding, of the County of Luzerne:
Greetings.

Know that you, the said Micajah Harding (being duly elected and returned) are hereby commissioned Captain of the Fourth Company in the Second Regiment of the Luzerne Brigade of the Militia of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. To have and to hold this Commission, exercising all the powers, and discharging all the duties thereto lawfully belong and attached, for the term of seven years.

In the testimony whereof, I have set my hand, and caused the great seal of the said State to be affixed to these Presents, at Philadelphia, the Seventeenth Day of August, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand, Seven Hundred and Ninety-Three, and of the Commonwealth the Eighteenth.

By the Governor,

Signed, A. L. DALLAS

He emigrated from Luzerne County, Pa., to Wayne County, New York where his children were born. In 1829, he came to Lima Township, LaGrange County, Indiana. His son Daniel and a "Hiram" Harding (of whom we have no record) came at the same time. He was a most influential citizen, doing much to develop

that Comnty, filling several offices of trust in those early days, amongst them being an 'Overseer of the Poor.."

After the death of his wife he made his home with his son, Micajah Jr., until his death in 1849. We have a letter received in 1923 from his Grand-daughter, Mrs. Louisa Shenk of Springport, Michigan. She was 79 years old at that time, and in part she says: "My grand-father, Micajah Harding Sr. was 88 years old when he died. I was too young, and only remember seeing him breathe his last; my mother, (Lydia Harding) said she cared for him 40 years, and that he was a grand old man." He used to go to Fort Wayne on horseback, along the Indian Trails, to enter the land on Mongoquonong Prairie."

He was the father of five children as follows:

Micajah Jr.

Daniel

Jessie, reported to have gone West in an early day and drowned in the Platte River.

Sallie, married Reeves, lived in Wayne County, New York.

Lucy, married Craft, lived near Quincy, Michigan. Went West in an early day.

Micajah Harding Jr., son of Micajah Sr. and Betsey Harding, was born in Wayne County, New York, November 20, 1812. Married Lydia Kellehan. She was born in Green County, Ohio, November 7, 1814. Together, they joined his parents in Lima Township, LaGrange Comnty, Indiana in 1832. He was a farmer by occupation. He died July 23, 1854. His wife died in 1880. Their children were:

Stephen

John who died in infancy.

Wesley drowned in Cedar Lake near Howe, Indiana when he was 17 years old.

Sylvester

Louisa

Lucy

Edward

Rebecca

THE HARDING FAMILY

Lucy Harding, daughter of Micajah Harding, Sr., and Lydia (Kellehan) Harding, was born in Lima Township, LaGrange County, Indiana. The exact date of her birth is unknown to the writer. She first married a man by the name of Wheeler. About two years after their marriage, Mr. Wheeler died. There were no children born to this union. Mrs. Wheeler then married Mace Hanson. They became acquainted while Lucy was visiting in Minnesota and were married there. They soon came to Indiana and purchased forty acres of land on the banks of Cedar Lake, in LaGrange County. In a short time they sold their Indiana home and went back to Minnesota, where they lived nearly five years near the town of Winebaga. Two of their children were born there. Finally the locusts became so numerous that they destroyed the crops and made agriculture unprofitable, so they returned again to Indiana. Mr. Hanson is still living and is 83 years old. The mother died at the time of the death of her youngest son, Guy. Mother and child died at the same time. Their children were as follows:

Edward C

Lyda

Elsie

Ray

Emmanuel

Guy *Hanson*

Edward C. ~~Harding~~ was born in Indiana. Married Alice Hanes. Their children were Norma and Mace. Mace was accidentally shot at the age of 16. The remainder of the family reside at Lansing, Michigan.

Lyda married Joseph Sturgis. They resided at Sturgis, Michigan. She died in 1923. They had four children as follows: Florence, married and died in 1928; Alice, married and lives at Seattle, Washington; Thomas, who is still single, and Henrietta who is also married, but place of residence is unknown.

Elsie married Arthur Gilhams, they also reside at Sturgis. They have three children as follows: Ruth, married, but place of residence unknown; Doris, married and lives in California, and Hilda who is still single.

Ray Micajah, married Cora Healey. He has lived in or near Wolcottville his entire life. He is a barber by trade and has his place of business and his home in Wolcottville, Indiana. They have two sons, Harry Mace, who married Margaret Axline and lives at High Point, North Carolina, and Bernard William who was born in 1905 and was accidentally killed when he touched a live wire while working on an electric light pole. He died June 12, 1924 at the age of 19 years.

Emmanuel married Leonette Barnaby. They live at Kalamazoo, Michigan and have the following two children: Fay and Hurdes.

Guy, who died with his mother in infancy.

Rebecca Harding, daughter of Micajah Harding Jr., and Lydia Kelleham) Harding was born in Lima Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, in August, 1854. Married Emmanuel Zigler. Mr. Zigler is dead but Rebecca is still living and resides in Sturgis, Michigan. She is the only living member of the Micajah Harding Jr., family. They were the parents of three children: Maud, who married George Prestige. They live near Sturgis, Michigan. There is a large family of children of whom we have no record. Frank and John who still reside with their mother.

Edward Harding, son of Micajah Harding Jr., and Lydia (Kelleham) Harding, was born in Lima Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, September 7, 1852. With the exception of a few years, he lived in Lima Township his entire life, and for the last thirty-seven years, he resided at the home he established on the banks of Twin Lakes.

On December 21, 1874, he was united in marriage to Ella Shultz, who still survives him. (1929). They were the parents of four children:

Clyde Micajah

Jessie Edward

Robert V.

Leroy, who died at the age of 2 years and 6 months.

Clyde M. Harding, son of Edward and Ella (Shultz) Harding, was born in Lima Township, La-

Grange County, Indiana, February 25, 1876. Married Alta Miner. They have lived in Howe, Indiana all their married life. Clyde has been a Rural Free Delivery Mail Carrier since 1902, or for the past 27 years. They are the parents of the following daughter:

Gladys May, born June 3, 1905. She is teaching school in Chicago at present.

Jessie Edward Harding, son of Edward and Ella (Shultz) Harding, was born June 15, 1882. Married Rachael Moore. Reside in Detroit. They have the following children:

Gwendlyn, born March 16, 1908. She married Marvin Spence. They live in Detroit, Michigan and have a daughter Gwendlyn born in 1927.

Erma, born November 5, 1910.

Greta, born April , 1913.

Robert V. Harding, son of Edward and Ella (Shultz) Harding, was born September 28, 1897. Married Eva Briggs. They reside in Detroit, Michigan and have the following children:

Mary Alice, born June 19, 1921.

Robert, born April , 1925.

Levisa Harding, daughter of Micajah Harding Jr., and Lydia (Kellehan) Harding, was born in Lima Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, March 15, 1844. She married Jacob Shenk. Mrs. Shenk was preceded in death by her husband. She died in 1927 at the age of 83 years. Their children were:

Elizabeth

William

Emma

Jay

Anna

Asher

Sylvester Harding, son of Micajah Harding Jr., and Lydia (Kellehan) Harding, was born in LaGrange County. We do not have the balance of his history, but he had one son as follows:

Ezra, who had a son Wayne and a daughter

Rita. Wayne has a son Norman and Rita

has a daughter Marian.

Stephen Harding, son of Micajah Harding Jr., and Lydia (Kellehan) Harding, was born in 1815 in LaGrange County, Indiana. He was the father of six children as follows:

Roba
Mary
Lilly
Leslie
Henry
Archie.

Daniel Harding, son of Micajah Harding Senior, was born in 1781. He was a brother of the above Micajah Harding Jr. He married Nancy He came from Wayne County, New York to LaGrange County, Indiana with his father in 1829. He was elected the first sheriff of LaGrange County in 1832. In January 1833 he was appointed as one of the four Read Supervisors in the County. His children were:

Sarah, who married Birdsell. They lived in California.
Alice, who married Agnew. Lived in DeKalb County, Indiana.
Norman, who lived in Howe, Indiana. He had a son, Daniel.
Eliza, who married Sickles. Lived near Bronson, Michigan.
Helen, who married Eggleston. Residence unknown.

Following is a Brief History of Some of the Brothers and Sisters of 24 Dimmick Harding

23 Abel Harding, son of 22 William and Polly Harding was born in Wayne County New York. The last report we have of him, was, that he and his wife were residents of Adrain, Michigan, at the time of his death, and left no descendants.

25 Curtis Harding, son of 22 William and Polly Harding was born in Wayne County, New York. Married Amy Angel Cowan. Amy (Cowan) Harding was the daughter of David and Esther (Smith) Cowan of South Foster, Rhode Island, and removed with her parents to the State of New York, when she was but

a small girl. They were the parents of the following children:

Thomas
Esther
Johnathan
William
Bishop
Daniel
Eliza

The first four children were born in the state of New York, but the last two were born in LaGrange County, Indiana. The family came to LaGrange County, Indiana in 1831, where Curtis Harding eventually became the owner of several farms and tracts of timber near the town of LaGrange. He died in February, 1863, survived by all of his family, with the exception of Johnathan and Thomas. The daughter, Esther, never married, but devoted the best of her life and all of her interests to the welfare of her mother, her brothers and her sister. Her life and character were of the most beautiful and ideal Christian type. The wife and mother, Amy (Cowan) Harding passed away November 7, 1897 at the age of ninety-three. William and Bishop Harding never married, but remained on the original home farm, until they too passed away. Daniel Harding, whose death occurred March 16, 1916, left surviving him, two daughters, Elsie (Harding) Sesline, LaGrange, Indiana, and Jennie (Harding) Reed, of Sherwood, Michigan. Mrs. Reed also has two children, Daniel and Dorothy. Thomas Harding is survived by two sons, Miles B. of Oklahoma and Thomas Curtis of Toledo, Ohio. Eliza (Harding) Dragoo resides in LaGrange, and is the only surviving member of the family. She has a daughter, Amy Edith Dragoo.

26 Solomon Harding, son of 22 William and Polly Harding was born in New York State. Married Hannah Pike. They were the parents of seven children:

Abel, who married Anna Griffith. They had five children, viz: Vesta, Nora, Minnie, Albie and Eddie.

THE HARDING FAMILY

35

James, who married Clystria Wiley. They had nine children, viz: Emma, Martha, Edward, Jervis, Alton, Maggie, Arthur, George and Ada Irene.

Benjamin, married Eliza Derr. They had no children.

Mary, married James Thomas. They had three children, viz: Myrtle, Earl and Velma.

William, never married.

Sarah, Married Edward Luellyn. They had two children, viz: Bessie, and the other name unknown. She then married Steven McBride. They have one child but the name is unknown to the writer.

27 Oliver Harding, son of 22 William and Polly Harding was born in New York State. Married Almira Leonard. In 1835 they brought their family from New York State to Clearspring Township, LaGrange County, Indiana and entered 160 acres of land and made some of the first clearings in the wilderness of that part of the County. Oliver Harding died April 12, 1837, not living long enough to fully develop his holdings, and his wife passed away in October of the same year. They were the parents of four children:

Leonard, born November 12, 1831.

Levi, born August 26, 1833.

Dinnick, Born March 15, 1835.

Elisha, born April 22, 1837.

Elisha Harding was one of the first white children to be born in Clearspring Township, LaGrange County, Indiana. He grew to manhood and married Elizabeth Bain in 1861. He soon, however, left LaGrange to go into the army, enlisting in the 129th Indiana Infantry. He died in 1861, survived by his widow and one son, George Oliver Harding. George Oliver Harding attended district schools in Lima and Clay Township and made the best of his opportunities throughout his industrious life. In 1882 he was married to Martha E. Chrystler. She passed away February 11, 1909, leaving the father and eight children. Their children are:

Sarah, who lives at Thayer, Indiana.

Julia Catherine, residing at Brooklyn, New York.

Laura L., residing at Sturgis, Michigan.

Ruth, of near LaGrange, Indiana.

Esther, of near LaGrange, Indiana.

Amy Viola, of near LaGrange, Indiana.

William, who lives on a farm near Orland, Indiana.

Gladys, who lives with her Grand-parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chrystler.

The above children are all married, with the exception of the last two, William and Gladys.

THE HARDING FAMILY

The name HARDING is a common one. Most any city directory reveals a long list of HARDINGS. We are very certain that anyone who spells their name H-A-R-D-I-N-G is in some way connected or related to the Hardings whose history appears in the foregoing pages. For instance we have Miss Nellie Harding of Auburn, Indiana whose ancestry we have been trying to trace back to the old "Harding" stock and have failed, yet we believe that somewhere along the line she is directly connected to our own "Harding Line." She has been able to give us a short line of her ancestry as follows:

Her Great-Grandfather, Joseph Harding had seven sons who were as follows:

- Louis
- Joseph
- Edwin
- Hershel
- Basil
- Cornelius

The above Louis Harding had a son Ephriam who had a daughter Nellie Harding whose name appears above and resides in Auburn, Indiana.

Cornelius Harding had a son Clarence. Nothing further is known of this family.

We are hoping that in the near future we may be able to trace this line back to a definite point, but up to the present time, with the information we have been able to gather, it has been impossible to reach any conclusion.

HISTORICAL FRAGMENTS

The Hardings represent one of the oldest families in LaGrange County, Indiana, having been among the earliest settlers of more than ninety years ago, and the History of Northeastern Indiana, refers to their record as being one of industry, good citizenship and undoubted patriotism.

Among the first pioneers of Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, the History of Northeastern Indiana gives the name of Dimmick Harding.

History says that the second person buried in the Jamestown Cemetery, Stenben County, Indiana, was Diana Harding, wife of pioneer Harding. She was buried ("late in the afternoon") on January 15, 1811. (Querry: Who was Diana Harding?)

In Wilmington Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, in 1812, the first frame building erected, in what is now the city of Butler, was a school house, and the first teacher was L. Harding. (Another Querry: Who was L. Harding?)

The names "William" and "Stephen" seemed to be family names in former generations of the Harding family, for we see by glancing back through the pages of history that nearly every family had a Stephen and a William, but in only one single instance do we ever see a "Henry" Harding.



JAN 75



N. MANCHESTER,
INDIANA

